

STAFF REPORT
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2011
CONSENT AGENDA


TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: BRIAN FRAGIAO, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS /TOWN ENGINEER 

DATE: JANUARY 24, 2011

SUBJECT: KING ROAD & SWETZER ROAD TRAFFIC SIGNAL PROJECT – CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION AND UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD REQUIREMENTS

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000 to process the railroad pre-emption timing at the King Road crossing. 

ISSUE STATEMENT AND DISCUSSION:

As part of the design for the traffic signal proposed at the King Road and Swetzer Road Intersection, staff has been in discussion with Union Pacific in regards to the railroad crossing at King Road. The Town's consultant Kimley-Horn & Associates met at the proposed signal location with representatives of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to go over CPUC & UPRR requirements. The following items were discussed:

1. *Of particular concern and a significant portion of the discussion was the eastbound King Road approach to the railroad grade crossing. Although striped as one large lane, the pavement is actually wide enough to accommodate side-by-side vehicles and it routinely operates as two lanes. The concern is having two vehicles on the tracks, and if there is a larger vehicle blocking the view of the smaller vehicle, the small vehicle will not be able to see a train coming. For this reason, supplemental railroad signals are "required" to accomplish the minimal visual requirements of at grade crossings if no changes are implemented. The cost would be roughly \$70,000. To avoid high cost of crossing arms, the Town may consider narrowing the crossing of the tracks to one lane by a physical barrier such as a curb or delineators with striping. Staff is looking at narrowing the lane to keep the cost down.*
2. *Connect a sidewalk from the east to the west side of the railroad tracks on the north side of King Road. Restrict pedestrian crossing on the south side of King Road.*
3. *Submit the PUC General Order (GO)-88B application. This is required for any improvement changes adjacent to railroad grade crossings. This process may take 4 to 12 months.*
4. *Submit a Letter of Authorization to UPRR to process/evaluate the railroad pre-emption timing across King Road. The pre-emption timing must be coordinated between the railroad tracks and the Taylor/King and King/Swetzer Intersection signals to allow smooth vehicle circulation during the presents of a train crossing.*

Attached is a draft copy of the letter of Authorization to UPRR.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

This project is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15301 Class 1 (c, d &f), "Existing Highways and Street Facilities" and Class 2, "Replacement or Reconstruction" of the guidelines.

FINANCING CONSIDERATION

The Letter of Authorization to UPRR is to allow charging of UPRR services up to \$10,000 to process/evaluate the railroad pre-emption timing at the King Road crossing. The funding could come from the Transportation Development Act Funds.

Construction (\$275,000) costs will be funded by \$122,345 of CMAQ 2011 funds and 2011 Transportation Development Act Funds (\$152,655). Funding for additional crossing arm modifications (\$70,000) has not been determined.

TOWN OF LOOMIS

RESOLUTION NO. 11-

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS
AUTHORIZING THE NOT-TO-EXCEED BILLING AMOUNT OF \$10,000 TO
PROCESS THE RAILROAD PRE-EMPTION TIMING AT THE
KING ROAD CROSSING FOR THE NEW TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT THE
INTERSECTION OF KING ROAD & SWETZER ROAD**

WHEREAS, the Town has scheduled under the 2011/2012 Capital Improvement Program a new traffic signal at the intersection of King Road and Swetzer Road; and

WHEREAS, the Town will be receiving Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds of \$122,345 for the project in 2011; and

WHEREAS, the town has met with the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) to go over their requirements at the King Road railroad crossing as part of the improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Town is required to submit a GO88B application to the CPUC and a Letter of Authorization to the UPRR.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town of Loomis authorizes a not-to-exceed billing amount of \$10,000 to process the railroad pre-emption timing at the King Road crossing and authorizes the Town Manager to execute the Letter of Authorization to be submitted to UPRR for the new traffic signal at the intersection of King Road and Swetzer Road.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Loomis this 8th day of February, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Town Clerk

Town Attorney

DRAFT AUTHORIZATION LETTER TO UPRR

February 8, 2011

Mr. Terrel Anderson
Manager Industry & Public Projects
Union Pacific Railroad
9451 Atkinson Street
Roseville, California 95747

King Road @ Swetzer Road - UPRR/PUC Coordination

Dear Mr. Anderson,

The Town of Loomis is working to install a new traffic signal at the intersection of King Road and Swetzer Road. It is our understanding that this project requires coordination efforts with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). Recent discussions with between our consultant, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and UPRR have identified the following next steps to be completed in the process:

1. The Town is to provide a letter to UPRR authorizing them to incur costs up to a specified threshold for the initial review and coordination efforts related to this project. These initial efforts would include a "Diagnostic Review" which would be a meeting on site with UPRR, PUC, the Town, and Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. Furthermore, this initial effort would also include determination of an estimate of UPRR construction costs required to implement our recommended preemption.
2. Upon receiving concurrence from all parties, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. will be able to proceed with the required PUC GO-88B form submission. This form requires a letter of concurrence from UPRR.
3. Once the GO-88B form is submitted through the PUC, it is anticipated that approval would come back in less than 45 days.

We therefore authorize UPRR to perform their needed services to ensure the railroad preemption of our new signal at King Road and Swetzer Road is appropriate. The appropriation amount shall not exceed a total of \$10,000.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Brian Frাগiao, Public Works Director/Town Engineer at (916) 652-1840.

Very truly yours,

Perry Beck
Town Manager

cc: Brian Frাগiao
Town of Loomis
Public Works Director/Town Engineer

Mr. Marvin Kennix
Railroad Crossings Engineering Section
California Public Utilities Commission
515 L Street, Suite 1119
Sacramento, California 95814

Matthew D. Weir, P.E., T.E.
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
11060 White Rock Road, Suite 150
Rancho Cordova, California 95670